

We Can Do It!



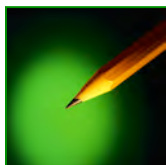
Meets or Exceeds
the NCLB Standards
No Child Left Behind Act



Montana Office of Public
Instruction, January
2005

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MontCAS: Montana's response
to NCLB. Have your pencils
sharpened as we examine
MontCAS....



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MontCAS: Montana Comprehensive Assessment System

MontCAS consists of two phases:

1. The Iowa Basic Skills Test:

A norm referenced test (NRT) that measures a student
against their peers on general knowledge and is for program
improvements over time.

2. The Montana Criterion Reference Test

A criterion referenced test (CRT) that compares a student
against the Montana standards for the purpose of
improvement in curriculum, instruction, and student
achievement.

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MontCAS: Phase 1, The NRT

- o Iowa Basic Skills Test
- o Currently given to grades 4, 8, 11
- o Reading, language arts, math, social studies, science
- o Multiple choice
- o Accommodations for 504 and IEP's includes calculator use
- o Funded by the state

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MontCAS Phase 2, The CRT

- o Criterion-referenced test
- o Grades 4, 8, 10
- o Reading and Math
- o Multiple choice and **constructed response**
- o Funded by the US Department of Education

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MontCAS Phase 2, The CRT 2006, 2007, and 2008

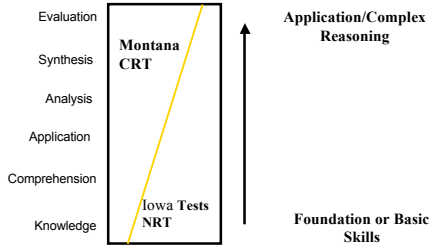
- o **Spring 2006 & 2007:**
 - o Reading and Math for 3rd thru 8th Grades, and 10th Grade
- o **Spring 2008:**
 - o Reading and Math for 3rd thru 8th Grades, and 10th Grade
 - o Science for Grades 4, 8, and 10

For specific dates, go to

www.opi.state.mt.us

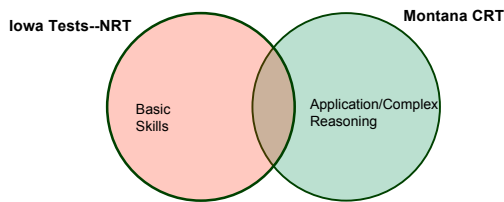
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Remember, the Iowa Tests and the CRT are Complementary Assessments



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Overlapping Assessments



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Iowa Tests Customized Skills Reports

- Items from the Iowa Tests measure the **knowledge dimension** of the Montana Standard, but do not adequately measure the **application aspect**.



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CRT FAQ

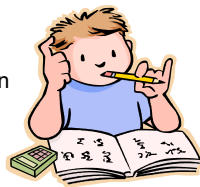
- **Q:** Is the Montana CRT aligned to Montana Content Standards?
- **A:** YES
 - Northwest Regional Educational Lab alignment study and test blueprint

For additional information go to:
www.nwrel.org

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Content Standards

- Represent what students in Montana are expected to know and be able to do as a result of their entire public school experience
- Grade level learning expectation



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Grade Level Learning Expectations

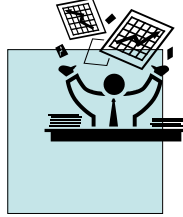
- Specific expectations of what students should know and be able to do at selected grade levels
- Defined for four levels of achievement: advanced, proficient, nearing proficiency, and novice
- Give students and teachers a clear and challenging target
- Help focus energy and resources on the bottom line: **student achievement**



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We have the data—Now what?

- You can look at the data with a focused lens (student data) or with a wide band (system or school)



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How Will You Use This Training?

????????????????
????????????????

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